Regularisation of Casual Workers in Doordarshan and Radio Stations

587. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of casual workers like Floor Assistants, Production Assistants, Carpenters and other Technical workers are working in Doordarshan and Radio Stations in the country for more than 10 years or so;

(b) if so, the details thereof, post-wise and Kendra-wise; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to regularise the services of such casual workers and by when they are likely to be regularised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) There are no casual workers in AIR working regularly or continuously for more than 10 years. However, such workers are there in Doordarshan and information in respect there of is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) Services of the eligible casual workers working in Doordarshan as on 31.12.91 are being regularised in terms of its policy guidelines dated 9.6.92, subject to availability of vacancies. No time frame can be fixed for this purpose. However, till all eligible casual workers in a particular category are regularised no fresh recruitment is to be resorted.

Amendments to Prasar Bharati Act

588. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose any changes in the Prasar Bharati Act; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) Government has constituted a committee to study the working of Prasar Bharati and make appropriate recommendations in regard to its organisational structure, legal framework, system and other relevant areas. Changes, if any, would be finalized after receiving the report.

High and Low Power Transmitters

589. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of high power transmitters and low power transmitters operating in the country;

(b) the break-up thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether some of the projects are still pending in various States; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps proposed to be taken to implement these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) DD has 95 HPTs and 708 LPTs in operation. State-wise break-up is given in the Statement (*See* below)

(c) and (d) 265 DD Transmitter projects are already under various stages of implementation in different States/UTs.